

Stash Friendly Placemats

GENERAL DIRECTIONS

1. These instructions are fat quarter and stash friendly. The finished size is 20" x 14", which means the backs are cut 20-1/2" x 14-1/2" - easily from a fat quarter, if you wish. The fronts will each feature two or more fabrics. Feel free to use more or fewer fabrics than the instructions indicate.
2. All instructions are written for ONE placemat. Multiply according to how many you wish to make. The only math provided will be for ONE. Please do not ask me for more - enjoy what is provided. The instructions are only for the top of the placemat. See Step 4 for Finishing and Backing.
3. All instructions are written for an accurate 1/4" seam. To test your seam, perfectly cut two pieces of fabric that measure 2" x 5" each. Stitch them together along the 5" length. Measure across from raw edge to raw edge. They should measure 3-1/2". If not, adjust your seam allowance and repeat until achieved.
4. Consider backing them with a Placemat of another month. That will save on the fleece, backing, time, and especially storage.
5. If you wish to back with plain fabric, instructions for 'pillow case' type construction are provided here.
6. Quilt to suit yourself. I found these a fabulous venue for practicing and improving my free motion machine quilting skills.
7. If you'd like to share these with your guild or small group, please let me know. Our logo and contact info MUST remain on each page.

CONSTRUCTION:

We've found Pellon Fleece (SKU # 988) to be a great batting for Placemats. It's polyester, washes well, and retains its shape - available at most fabric stores.

1. Cut Placemat Backing and Pellon Fleece each 14-1/2" x 20-1/2". (Note: you may decide to use a different month's placemat as the Backing, making them reversible.)
2. Place the Fleece on a flat surface. Position the Backing right side up, on top of the Fleece. Place the Placemat Top face down on top of the Backing. Keeping all the edges even, secure with 12 pins.
3. Stitch 1/4" from the edge, beginning on a side that has NO patchwork, and ending 4" shy of the starting place, providing a 4" hole for turning. At each corner, take ONE diagonal stitch rather than turning a sharp corner.
4. Trim the corners.
5. Turn the Placemat right side out. Carefully make the corners and edges smooth. Wait to press.
6. Hand stitch the opening closed, hiding the stitches. Press. Quilt. Enjoy.



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